

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 186804
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 ACDA-07 IO-13 EB-08 NRC-05 OES-07 ERDA-05
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 FEA-01 COME-00
/109 R

DRAFTED BY AF/S:DKEOGH:KHS

APPROVED BY AF:TWSEELYE

AF/P:RHOLLADAY

-----041655 090114Z /70

O 090003Z AUG 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 186804

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDEV, SF, US

SUBJECT: TASS STORY ON SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR DEVICE

1. WE ARE PROVIDING PRESS GUIDANCE PREPARED FOR USE HERE
ON WHICH YOU MAY WISH TO DRAW IF ASKED IN CONNECTION WITH
TASS ALLEGATIONS RE IMMINENT TESTING OF SOUTH AFRICAN
NUCLEAR DEVICE. FURTHER GUIDANCE AND INSTRUCTIONS IN
PREPARATION AND WILL BE SENT SEPTTEL.

2. PRESS GUIDANCE FOLLOWS:

Q: CAN YOU CONFIRM THE SOVIET CLAIM THAT SOUTH AFRICA IS
ABOUT TO TEST A NUCLEAR WEAPON?

A: WE HAVE NO EVIDENCE THAT THE SOUTH AFRICANS HAVE PLANS
OR PREPARATIONS TO TEST A NUCLEAR DEVICE.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 186804

Q: DO WE HAVE INTELLIGENCE TO INDICATE WHETHER THE SOUTH
AFRICANS ARE WORKING ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS?

A: THE SOUTH AFRICANS HAVE SAID THEY ARE NOT WORKING ON
WEAPONS, AND THAT THEIR NUCLEAR RESEARCH PROGRAMS ARE FOR
PEACEFUL PURPOSES. I WILL NOT COMMENT ON INTELLIGENCE
MATTERS.

Q: DOES THAT MEAN THAT THE US HAS NO GROUNDS TO WORRY ABOUT SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENTS?

A: NO. SOUTH AFRICA IS NOT A PARTY TO THE NON-PROLIF-
ERATION TREATY (NPT). MOREOVER, SHE HAS
DEVELOPED AN INDIGENOUS PROCESS FOR THE ENRICHMENT OF
URANIUM. THAT PROCESS IS NOT UNDER THE SAFEGUARDS SYSTEM
OF THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY (IAEA). THE US,
OF COURSE, FAVORS UNIVERSAL ADHERENCE TO THE NPT, A POINT
WE HAVE REPEATEDLY STRESSED TO THE SOUTH AFRICANS.
UNSAFEGUARDED FACILITIES--PARTICULARLY SENSITIVE FACILITIES
SUCH AS ENRICHMENT AND REPROCESSING--ARE, OF COURSE,
ALWAYS GROUNDS FOR CONCERN BECAUSE THE INTERNATIONAL
COMMUNITY HAS NO WAY OF INDEPENDENTLY VERIFYING THAT A
FACILITY IS BEING USED EXCLUSIVELY FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES.

Q: HAVE THE SOUTH AFRICANS RECEIVED ASSISTANCE FROM THE
US OR OTHER SOURCES WHICH WOULD HELP THEM MAKE A NUCLEAR
WEAPON?

A: AS A MATTER OF LAW AND POLICY, AND AS A PART OF OUR
NPT OBLIGATIONS, THE US DOES NOT ASSIST COUNTRIES TO
ACQUIRE NUCLEAR WEAPONS. WE HAVE NEVER PROVIDED THE
SOUTH AFRICANS WITH SENSITIVE NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY.
VIRTUALLY ALL NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS NOW FOLLOW SIMILAR
POLICIES.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 186804

Q: WHAT IS OUR INVOLVEMENT WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR
PROGRAM? WHAT HAVE WE PROVIDED IN THE WAY OF NUCLEAR
MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES?

A: OUR BILATERAL COOPERATION WITH SOUTH AFRICA IS LIMITED
TO PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY WITH INTERNATIONAL
SAFEGUARDS TO ENSURE PEACEFUL USE. THAT COOPERATION
DATES BACK TO AN AGREEMENT SIGNED IN 1957. UNDER THAT
AGREEMENT, SINCE 1965 WE HAVE BEEN SUPPLYING HIGHLY-
ENRICHED URANIUM FOR SOUTH AFRICA'S US-BUILT RESEARCH
REACTOR, WHICH IS USED SOLELY FOR ENGINEERING TESTS,
ISOTOPE PRODUCTION AND FUEL ELEMENT DEVELOPMENT. SAFE-
GUARDS ARE APPLIED BY THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY
AGENCY. IN SHORT, WE HAVE SOUGHT TO USE OUR INFLUENCE AS
A SUPPLIER TO CREATE AND STRENGTHEN SAFEGUARDS AGAINST
NUCLEAR WEAPON PROLIFERATION.

IN RECENT YEARS, WE HAVE BECOME INCREASINGLY STRINGENT
IN WITHHOLDING EVEN THE MOST MINOR ASSISTANCE TO SOUTH
AFRICA'S ENRICHMENT PROGRAM IN KEEPING WITH OUR OPPOSITION
TO ANY FURTHER SPREAD OF SENSITIVE NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGIES IN
NATIONAL HANDS, AND OUR OPPOSITION TO UNSAFEGUARDED

NUCLEAR FACILITIES.

Q: WHAT ARE WE CURRENTLY DOING ABOUT US SUPPLIES TO
SOUTH AFRICA?

A: OUR NUCLEAR POLICY TOWARD SOUTH AFRICA IS CURRENTLY
UNDER REVIEW, AS ARE ALL ASPECTS OF US RELATIONS WITH
SOUTH AFRICA. WHILE OUR AGREEMENT WITH SOUTH AFRICA WAS
AMENDED IN 1974 TO PERMIT EXPORT OF LOW-ENRICHED URANIUM
FOR ELECTRICAL POWER GENERATION, NO EXPORTS HAVE BEEN MADE
OR ARE IMMINENT. CHRISTOPHER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 186804
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MMO-01 SIG-01 /013 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: AF/S: JCTAYLOR: GFH

APPROVED BY: AF/S-DENNIS DEOGH

-----106452 112233Z /44

R 110720Z AUG 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS

XMT AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 186804

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 186804 ACTION USUN AUG 10.

QUOTE IMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 186804

FOLLOWING SECSTATE 186804 SENT ACTION PRETORIA AUG. 9, 1977
REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 186804

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDEV, SF, US

SUBJECT: TASS STORY ON SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR DEVICE

1. WE ARE PROVIDING PRESS GUIDANCE PREPARED FOR USE HERE

ON WHICH YOU MAY WISH TO DRAW IF ASKED IN CONNECTION WITH
TASS ALLEGATIONS RE IMMINENT TESTING OF SOUTH AFRICAN
NUCLEAR DEVICE. FURTHER GUIDANCE AND INSTRUCTIONS IN
PREPARATION AND WILL BE SENT SEPTEL.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 186804

2. PRESS GUIDANCE FOLLOWS:

Q: CAN YOU CONFIRM THE SOVIET CLAIM THAT SOUTH AFRICA IS
ABOUT TO TEST A NUCLEAR WEAPON?

A: WE HAVE NO EVIDENCE THAT THE SOUTH AFRICANS HAVE PLANS
OR PREPARATIONS TO TEST A NUCLEAR DEVICE.

Q: DO WE HAVE INTELLIGENCE TO INDICATE WHETHER THE SOUTH
AFRICANS ARE WORKING ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS?

A: THE SOUTH AFRICANS HAVE SAID THEY ARE NOT WORKING ON
WEAPONS, AND THAT THEIR NUCLEAR RESEARCH PROGRAMS ARE FOR
PEACEFUL PURPOSES. I WILL NOT COMMENT ON INTELLIGENCE
MATTERS.

Q: DOES THAT MEAN THAT THE US HAS NO GROUNDS TO WORRY
ABOUT SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENTS?

A: NO. SOUTH AFRICA IS NOT A PARTY TO THE NON-PROLIF-
ERATION TREATY (NPT). MOREOVER, SHE HAS
DEVELOPED AN INDIGENOUS PROCESS FOR THE ENRICHMENT OF
URANIUM. THAT PROCESS IS NOT UNDER THE SAFEGUARDS SYSTEM
OF THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY (IAEA). THE US,
OF COURSE, FAVORS UNIVERSAL ADHERENCE TO THE NPT, A POINT
WE HAVE REPEATEDLY STRESSED TO THE SOUTH AFRICANS.
UNSAFEGUARDED FACILITIES--PARTICULARLY SENSITIVE FACILITIES
SUCH AS ENRICHMENT AND REPROCESSING--ARE, OF COURSE,
ALWAYS GROUNDS FOR CONCERN BECAUSE THE INTERNATIONAL
COMMUNITY HAS NO WAY OF INDEPENDENTLY VERIFYING THAT A
FACILITY IS BEING USED EXCLUSIVELY FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES.

Q: HAVE THE SOUTH AFRICANS RECEIVED ASSISTANCE FROM THE
US OR OTHER SOURCES WHICH WOULD HELP THEM MAKE A NUCLEAR
WEAPON?

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 186804

A: AS A MATTER OF LAW AND POLICY, AND AS A PART OF OUR
NPT OBLIGATIONS, THE US DOES NOT ASSIST COUNTRIES TO
ACQUIRE NUCLEAR WEAPONS. WE HAVE NEVER PROVIDED THE
SOUTH AFRICANS WITH SENSITIVE NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY.

VIRTUALLY ALL NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS NOW FOLLOW SIMILAR POLICIES.

Q: WHAT IS OUR INVOLVEMENT WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR PROGRAM? WHAT HAVE WE PROVIDED IN THE WAY OF NUCLEAR MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES?

A: OUR BILATERAL COOPERATION WITH SOUTH AFRICA IS LIMITED TO PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY WITH INTERNATIONAL SAFEGUARDS TO ENSURE PEACEFUL USE. THAT COOPERATION DATES BACK TO AN AGREEMENT SIGNED IN 1957. UNDER THAT AGREEMENT, SINCE 1965 WE HAVE BEEN SUPPLYING HIGHLY-ENRICHED URANIUM FOR SOUTH AFRICA'S US-BUILT RESEARCH REACTOR, WHICH IS USED SOLELY FOR ENGINEERING TESTS, ISOTOPE PRODUCTION AND FUEL ELEMENT DEVELOPMENT. SAFEGUARDS ARE APPLIED BY THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY. IN SHORT, WE HAVE SOUGHT TO USE OUR INFLUENCE AS A SUPPLIER TO CREATE AND STRENGTHEN SAFEGUARDS AGAINST NUCLEAR WEAPON PROLIFERATION.

IN RECENT YEARS, WE HAVE BECOME INCREASINGLY STRINGENT IN WITHHOLDING EVEN THE MOST MINOR ASSISTANCE TO SOUTH AFRICA'S ENRICHMENT PROGRAM IN KEEPING WITH OUR OPPOSITION TO ANY FURTHER SPREAD OF SENSITIVE NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGIES IN NATIONAL HANDS, AND OUR OPPOSITION TO UNSAFEGUARDED NUCLEAR FACILITIES.

Q: WHAT ARE WE CURRENTLY DOING ABOUT US SUPPLIES TO SOUTH AFRICA?

A: OUR NUCLEAR POLICY TOWARD SOUTH AFRICA IS CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW, AS ARE ALL ASPECTS OF US RELATIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICA. WHILE OUR AGREEMENT WITH SOUTH AFRICA WAS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 STATE 186804

AMENDED IN 1974 TO PERMIT EXPORT OF LOW-ENRICHED URANIUM FOR ELECTRICAL POWER GENERATION, NO EXPORTS HAVE BEEN MADE OR ARE IMMINENT. CHRISTOPHER UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 186804

ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 AF-10 /052 R

66011

DRAFTED BY:IO/SCT:ADJILLSON

APPROVED BY:IO: MESWOPE

S/AS:PFARLEY

AF/P:RHOLLADAY

IO/UNP:SESCUDERO

-----062533 170812Z /10

R 160220Z AUG 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 186804

USIAEA

FOLLOWING SECSTATE 186804 SENT ACTION ALL AFRICAN DIP POSTS
XMT PRETORIA AUG 11, 1977 REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 186804

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 186804 ACTION USUN AUG 10.

QUOTE IMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 186804

FOLLOWING SECSTATE 186804 SENT ACTION PRETORIA AUG. 9, 1977
REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 186804

E.O. 11652: N/A

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 186804

TAGS: PDEV, SF, US

SUBJECT: TASS STORY ON SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR DEVICE

1. WE ARE PROVIDING PRESS GUIDANCE PREPARED FOR USE HERE
ON WHICH YOU MAY WISH TO DRAW IF ASKED IN CONNECTION WITH
TASS ALLEGATIONS RE IMMINENT TESTING OF SOUTH AFRICAN
NUCLEAR DEVICE. FURTHER GUIDANCE AND INSTRUCTIONS IN
PREPARATION AND WILL BE SENT SEPTTEL.

2. PRESS GUIDANCE FOLLOWS:

Q: CAN YOU CONFIRM THE SOVIET CLAIM THAT SOUTH AFRICA IS ABOUT TO TEST A NUCLEAR WEAPON?

A: WE HAVE NO EVIDENCE THAT THE SOUTH AFRICANS HAVE PLANS OR PREPARATIONS TO TEST A NUCLEAR DEVICE.

Q: DO WE HAVE INTELLIGENCE TO INDICATE WHETHER THE SOUTH AFRICANS ARE WORKING ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS?

A: THE SOUTH AFRICANS HAVE SAID THEY ARE NOT WORKING ON WEAPONS, AND THAT THEIR NUCLEAR RESEARCH PROGRAMS ARE FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES. I WILL NOT COMMENT ON INTELLIGENCE MATTERS.

Q: DOES THAT MEAN THAT THE US HAS NO GROUNDS TO WORRY ABOUT SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENTS?

A: NO. SOUTH AFRICA IS NOT A PARTY TO THE NON-PROLIF-
ERATION TREATY (NPT). MOREOVER, SHE HAS
DEVELOPED AN INDIGENOUS PROCESS FOR THE ENRICHMENT OF
URANIUM. THAT PROCESS IS NOT UNDER THE SAFEGUARDS SYSTEM
OF THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY (IAEA). THE US,
OF COURSE, FAVORS UNIVERSAL ADHERENCE TO THE NPT, A POINT
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 186804

WE HAVE REPEATEDLY STRESSED TO THE SOUTH AFRICANS.
UNSAFEGUARDED FACILITIES--PARTICULARLY SENSITIVE FACILITIES
SUCH AS ENRICHMENT AND REPROCESSING--ARE, OF COURSE,
ALWAYS GROUNDS FOR CONCERN BECAUSE THE INTERNATIONAL
COMMUNITY HAS NO WAY OF INDEPENDENTLY VERIFYING THAT A
FACILITY IS BEING USED EXCLUSIVELY FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES.

Q: HAVE THE SOUTH AFRICANS RECEIVED ASSISTANCE FROM THE
US OR OTHER SOURCES WHICH WOULD HELP THEM MAKE A NUCLEAR
WEAPON?

A: AS A MATTER OF LAW AND POLICY, AND AS A PART OF OUR
NPT OBLIGATIONS, THE US DOES NOT ASSIST COUNTRIES TO
ACQUIRE NUCLEAR WEAPONS. WE HAVE NEVER PROVIDED THE
SOUTH AFRICANS WITH SENSITIVE NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY.
VIRTUALLY ALL NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS NOW FOLLOW SIMILAR
POLICIES.

Q: WHAT IS OUR INVOLVEMENT WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR
PROGRAM? WHAT HAVE WE PROVIDED IN THE WAY OF NUCLEAR
MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES?

A: OUR BILATERAL COOPERATION WITH SOUTH AFRICA IS LIMITED
TO PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY WITH INTERNATIONAL
SAFEGUARDS TO ENSURE PEACEFUL USE. THAT COOPERATION
DATES BACK TO AN AGREEMENT SIGNED IN 1957. UNDER THAT
AGREEMENT, SINCE 1965 WE HAVE BEEN SUPPLYING HIGHLY-
ENRICHED URANIUM FOR SOUTH AFRICA'S US-BUILT RESEARCH

REACTOR, WHICH IS USED SOLELY FOR ENGINEERING TESTS, ISOTOPE PRODUCTION AND FUEL ELEMENT DEVELOPMENT. SAFEGUARDS ARE APPLIED BY THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY. IN SHORT, WE HAVE SOUGHT TO USE OUR INFLUENCE AS A SUPPLIER TO CREATE AND STRENGTHEN SAFEGUARDS AGAINST NUCLEAR WEAPON PROLIFERATION.

IN RECENT YEARS, WE HAVE BECOME INCREASINGLY STRINGENT IN WITHHOLDING EVEN THE MOST MINOR ASSISTANCE TO SOUTH AFRICA'S ENRICHMENT PROGRAM IN KEEPING WITH OUR OPPOSITION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 STATE 186804

TO ANY FURTHER SPREAD OF SENSITIVE NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGIES IN NATIONAL HANDS, AND OUR OPPOSITION TO UNSAFEGUARDED NUCLEAR FACILITIES.

Q: WHAT ARE WE CURRENTLY DOING ABOUT US SUPPLIES TO SOUTH AFRICA?

A: OUR NUCLEAR POLICY TOWARD SOUTH AFRICA IS CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW, AS ARE ALL ASPECTS OF US RELATIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICA. WHILE OUR AGREEMENT WITH SOUTH AFRICA WAS AMENDED IN 1974 TO PERMIT EXPORT OF LOW-ENRICHED URANIUM FOR ELECTRICAL POWER GENERATION, NO EXPORTS HAVE BEEN MADE OR ARE IMMINENT. CHRISTOPHER UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER UNQUOTE VANCE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 186804
ORIGIN IO-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /004 R

66011.

DRAFTED BY:IO/UNP:RBARRY

APPROVED BY:IO:ESWOPE

-----065706 101047Z /12

R 100525Z AUG 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 186804

FOLLOWING SECSTATE 186804 SENT ACTION PRETORIA AUG. 9, 1977
REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 186804

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDEV, SF, US

SUBJECT: TASS STORY ON SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR DEVICE

1. WE ARE PROVIDING PRESS GUIDANCE PREPARED FOR USE HERE
ON WHICH YOU MAY WISH TO DRAW IF ASKED IN CONNECTION WITH
TASS ALLEGATIONS RE IMMINENT TESTING OF SOUTH AFRICAN
NUCLEAR DEVICE. FURTHER GUIDANCE AND INSTRUCTIONS IN
PREPARATION AND WILL BE SENT SEPTEL.

2. PRESS GUIDANCE FOLLOWS:

Q: CAN YOU CONFIRM THE SOVIET CLAIM THAT SOUTH AFRICA IS
ABOUT TO TEST A NUCLEAR WEAPON?

A: WE HAVE NO EVIDENCE THAT THE SOUTH AFRICANS HAVE PLANS
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 186804

OR PREPARATIONS TO TEST A NUCLEAR DEVICE.

Q: DO WE HAVE INTELLIGENCE TO INDICATE WHETHER THE SOUTH
AFRICANS ARE WORKING ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS?

A: THE SOUTH AFRICANS HAVE SAID THEY ARE NOT WORKING ON
WEAPONS, AND THAT THEIR NUCLEAR RESEARCH PROGRAMS ARE FOR
PEACEFUL PURPOSES. I WILL NOT COMMENT ON INTELLIGENCE
MATTERS.

Q: DOES THAT MEAN THAT THE US HAS NO GROUNDS TO WORRY
ABOUT SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENTS?

A: NO. SOUTH AFRICA IS NOT A PARTY TO THE NON-PROLIF-
ERATION TREATY (NPT). MOREOVER, SHE HAS
DEVELOPED AN INDIGENOUS PROCESS FOR THE ENRICHMENT OF
URANIUM. THAT PROCESS IS NOT UNDER THE SAFEGUARDS SYSTEM
OF THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY (IAEA). THE US,
OF COURSE, FAVORS UNIVERSAL ADHERENCE TO THE NPT, A POINT
WE HAVE REPEATEDLY STRESSED TO THE SOUTH AFRICANS.
UNSAFEGUARDED FACILITIES--PARTICULARLY SENSITIVE FACILITIES
SUCH AS ENRICHMENT AND REPROCESSING--ARE, OF COURSE,
ALWAYS GROUNDS FOR CONCERN BECAUSE THE INTERNATIONAL
COMMUNITY HAS NO WAY OF INDEPENDENTLY VERIFYING THAT A

FACILITY IS BEING USED EXCLUSIVELY FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES.

Q: HAVE THE SOUTH AFRICANS RECEIVED ASSISTANCE FROM THE US OR OTHER SOURCES WHICH WOULD HELP THEM MAKE A NUCLEAR WEAPON?

A: AS A MATTER OF LAW AND POLICY, AND AS A PART OF OUR NPT OBLIGATIONS, THE US DOES NOT ASSIST COUNTRIES TO ACQUIRE NUCLEAR WEAPONS. WE HAVE NEVER PROVIDED THE SOUTH AFRICANS WITH SENSITIVE NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY. VIRTUALLY ALL NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS NOW FOLLOW SIMILAR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 186804

POLICIES.

Q: WHAT IS OUR INVOLVEMENT WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR PROGRAM? WHAT HAVE WE PROVIDED IN THE WAY OF NUCLEAR MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES?

A: OUR BILATERAL COOPERATION WITH SOUTH AFRICA IS LIMITED TO PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY WITH INTERNATIONAL SAFEGUARDS TO ENSURE PEACEFUL USE. THAT COOPERATION DATES BACK TO AN AGREEMENT SIGNED IN 1957. UNDER THAT AGREEMENT, SINCE 1965 WE HAVE BEEN SUPPLYING HIGHLY-ENRICHED URANIUM FOR SOUTH AFRICA'S US-BUILT RESEARCH REACTOR, WHICH IS USED SOLELY FOR ENGINEERING TESTS, ISOTOPE PRODUCTION AND FUEL ELEMENT DEVELOPMENT. SAFEGUARDS ARE APPLIED BY THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY. IN SHORT, WE HAVE SOUGHT TO USE OUR INFLUENCE AS A SUPPLIER TO CREATE AND STRENGTHEN SAFEGUARDS AGAINST NUCLEAR WEAPON PROLIFERATION.

IN RECENT YEARS, WE HAVE BECOME INCREASINGLY STRINGENT IN WITHHOLDING EVEN THE MOST MINOR ASSISTANCE TO SOUTH AFRICA'S ENRICHMENT PROGRAM IN KEEPING WITH OUR OPPOSITION TO ANY FURTHER SPREAD OF SENSITIVE NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGIES IN NATIONAL HANDS, AND OUR OPPOSITION TO UNSAFEGUARDED NUCLEAR FACILITIES.

Q: WHAT ARE WE CURRENTLY DOING ABOUT US SUPPLIES TO SOUTH AFRICA?

A: OUR NUCLEAR POLICY TOWARD SOUTH AFRICA IS CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW, AS ARE ALL ASPECTS OF US RELATIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICA. WHILE OUR AGREEMENT WITH SOUTH AFRICA WAS AMENDED IN 1974 TO PERMIT EXPORT OF LOW-ENRICHED URANIUM FOR ELECTRICAL POWER GENERATION, NO EXPORTS HAVE BEEN MADE OR ARE IMMINENT. CHRISTOPHER UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BRIEFING MATERIALS, ALLEGATIONS, NUCLEAR TESTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE186804
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: DKEOGH:KHS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770285-0612
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770881/aaaacqmm.tel
Line Count: 543
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 6677635f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 10
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1661946
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TASS STORY ON SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR DEVICE
TAGS: PDEV, MNUC, SF, US
To: PRETORIA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6677635f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009